



Ex. 5 - Deliberative and Nonresponsive



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Control Information

Control Number:	AX-12-000-0495	Alternate Number:	N/A
Status:	For Your Information	Closed Date:	N/A
Due Date:	N/A	# of Extensions:	0
Letter Date:	Jan 10, 2012	Received Date:	Jan 11, 2012
Addressee:	AD-Administrator	Addressee Org:	EPA
Contact Type:	FAX (Facsimile)	Priority Code:	Normal
Signature:	SNR-Signature Not Required	Signature Date:	N/A
File Code:	401_127_a General Correspondence Files Record copy		
Subject:	Daily Reading File-Writing to ask EPA take urgent action to protect victims of hydraulic fracturing in Dimock, Pennsylvania		
Instructions:	For Your Information -- No action required		
Instruction Note:	N/A		
General Notes:	N/A		
CC:	OEAE - Office of External Affairs and Environmental Education		



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Printing Date: January 17, 2012 01:28:41



ORD - Office of Research and Development -- Immediate Office

OW - Office of Water -- Immediate Office

R3 - Region 3 - Immediate Office

Lead Information

Lead Author: N/A

Lead Assignments:

Assigner	Office	Assignee	Assigned Date	Due Date	Complete Date
No Record Found.					

Supporting Information

Supporting Author: N/A

Supporting Assignments:

Assigner	Office	Assignee	Assigned Date
Ken Labbe	OEX	R3	Jan 17, 2012

History

Action By	Office	Action	Date
Ken Labbe	OEX	Forward control to OW	Jan 11, 2012
Wanda Fields	OW	Forwarded control to OW-OGWDW	Jan 11, 2012
Ken Labbe	OEX	Control Taken Over	Jan 12, 2012
Ken Labbe	OEX	Forward control to R3	Jan 17, 2012

Comments

Commentator	Comment	Date
No Record Found.		

January 10, 2012

Lisa Jackson, Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson;

We, the undersigned health professionals and scientists, are writing to ask you to take urgent action to protect the victims of hydraulic fracturing in Dimock, Pennsylvania. Following the contamination of their water wells, these families are living without a safe source of drinking water and face possible health consequences if they are forced to use their contaminated well water. Specifically, we request that you investigate the contamination and, in the meantime, provide clean, potable drinking water as an emergency response action for these citizens. We believe that the US Environmental Protection Agency should step in to protect local residents if a driller jeopardizes drinking water supplies and the state government does not act. Your testimony before Congress in May 2011 on this very issue assures us that you also believe that the provision of safe drinking water in such circumstances is the duty of the EPA.

As you are aware, twelve Dimock families living in the Carter Road area suffered contamination of their wells shortly after the initiation of natural gas development using hydraulic fracturing. The contaminated condition of these families' drinking water was confirmed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2010, at which time the drilling company arranged for daily water deliveries. But these water deliveries ended on November 30, 2011 even though questions about the safety of the well water remain.

On December 1, 2011, hundreds of concerned citizens, environmental groups, and Mayor Matt Ryan of Binghamton, New York, took on the task of paying for and delivering water. Commendably, EPA Region 3 began further investigation into the affected well water in Dimock in mid-December, and then, in the first week of January, residents were informed that the EPA would continue to investigate the drinking water. On January 6th, EPA Region 3 officials told the affected Dimock families that EPA would provide safe drinking water. And then, in an unexplained reversal on January 7th, EPA backed away from that pledge, leaving the families in Dimock, once again, without the assurance of a safe and reliable supply of drinking water.

We understand that EPA is continuing its investigation into the nature and extent of the contamination in Dimock. However, as long as there are reasonable doubts to the safety of the drinking water and the potential of its consumption posing a significant health threat, the families should not be placed in harm's way. In the face of the complete abdication of responsibility by the polluter and the state of Pennsylvania, it is incumbent upon EPA to ensure that these families have access to safe, potable water.

We are 65 percent water by weight. Drinking water becomes our blood plasma, our cerebral spinal fluid, our sweat, and our tears. It is the steam of our exhaled breath on a cold winter's day. There is no other human right as fundamental as the right to clean water, which is the right to life itself.

We call on EPA to ensure that the families of Dimock do not endure another day without access to safe drinking water.

Sincerely,
Sandra Steingraber, Ph.D.
Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Ithaca College
Science Advisor, Breast Cancer Action
Former working group member, National Action Plan on Breast Cancer
Former science advisor, California Breast Cancer Research Program

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Vincent Pedre, MD. Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY
Adam Law, MD. Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY
Carol Klepack, BSRN. Dryden Family Medicine, Dryden, NY
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR MANAGEMENT

January 13, 2012

M-12-07

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES,
AND INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCIES

FROM: Jeffrey D. Zients
Federal Chief Performance Officer and
Deputy Director for Management 

SUBJECT: Inventory of Government Programs: Trade, Export and Competitiveness
Pilot

Our fiscal situation demands that we have a greater understanding of what government does well and what it needs to stop doing. Duplicative programs make government less effective, waste taxpayer dollars, and make it harder for the American people to navigate government services. In order to continue our efforts to reduce duplication and overlap and to improve program outcomes through better coordination across agencies, we must achieve even greater transparency into all of the government's programs. However, critical information on the government's programs has not been centralized in one place, making it difficult to access information on programs working to achieve similar objectives.

In the coming year, The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will work with agencies to develop a comprehensive list of government programs, as required by the Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act of 2010, and based on lessons learned from previous efforts. As a first step, we will conduct a pilot for a select group of agencies and bureaus with programs related to trade, exports and competitiveness. The specific agencies and bureaus are identified in the Appendix.

Pilot agencies will identify an inventory of programs and map them to established programmatic and organizational structures, as well as to the agency's strategic planning and performance goals. Agencies will also provide a basic set of descriptive information, including the program purpose and funding, for each program.

OMB will work closely with each pilot agency. To ensure the success of this effort, each pilot agency Chief Operating Officer should designate a Senior Accountable Official (SAO) to OMB no later than February 1, 2012. Additional details, including a collection template and detailed timeline, will be provided to the SAO of participating agencies.

Based on the pilot, guidance will be issued to all Federal agencies detailing the approach to be taken to develop a government-wide inventory.

Please send the names of SAOs and direct questions to the Associate Director of Performance and Personnel Management, Shelley Metzenbaum at smetzenbaum@omb.eop.gov.